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Vote for proposition no. 1,
as printed on the official...

[New York City]

[1916]

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VOTE FOR

PROPOSITION No. 1

AS PRINTED ON THE OFFICIAL BALLOT

ON NOVEMBER 7, 1916



FOR THE PEOPLE'S PARKS AND FORESTS

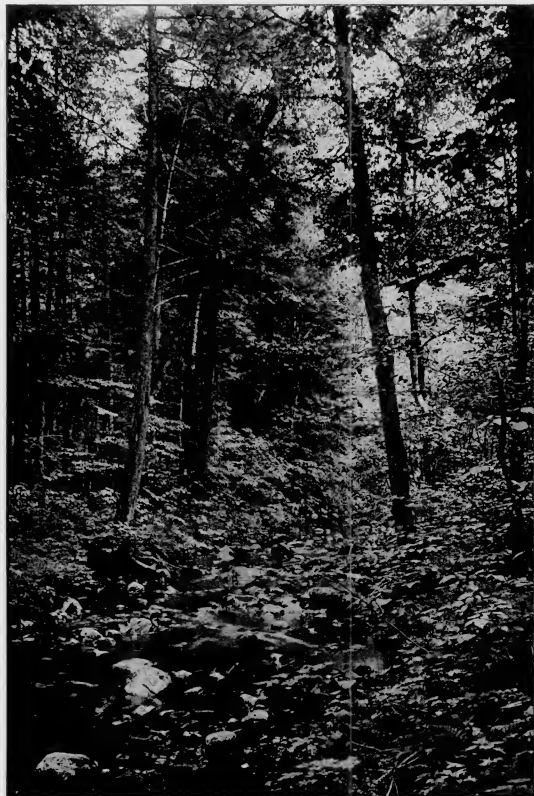
VOTE FOR
PROPOSITION No. 1

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FOR THE PEOPLE'S PARKS AND FORESTS



The forest sources of New York's greatest rivers must be protected

5 March, 1920 - C.R.W.

PROPOSITION No. 1

FOR THE PEOPLE'S PARKS AND FORESTS

WHAT PROPOSITION NO. 1 IS

On November 7, 1916, the voters of the State of New York will decide whether a bond issue for \$10,000,000 shall be authorized for increasing the area of the State Parks, as provided for in Chapter 569 of the Laws of 1916. The Parks specified in the Law are the Adirondack and Catskill Parks of the Forest Preserve, and the Palisades Interstate Park. On the official ballot this proposal will be known as Proposition No. 1.

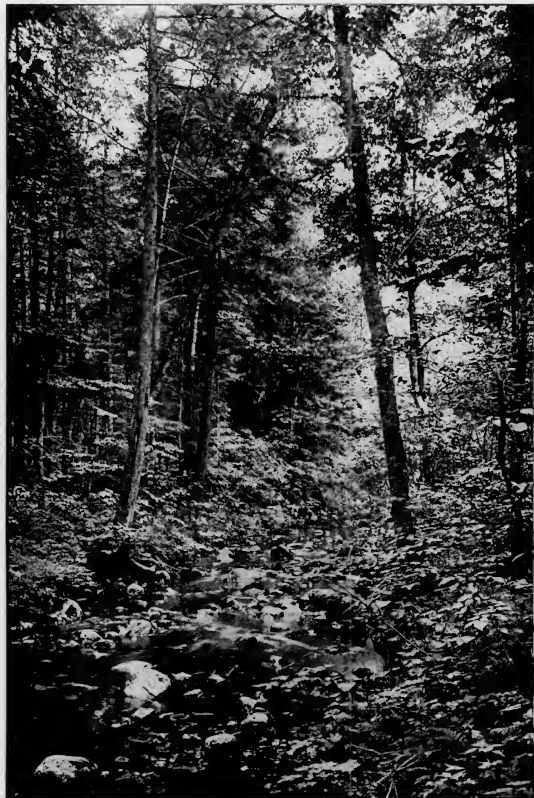
The State of New York now owns in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains 1,814,550 acres of forests and lakes. They constitute the Forest Preserve, which was established by law in 1885 and was made absolutely and forever inviolate by popular vote under the State Constitution of 1894.

In the counties of Orange and Rockland, under the control of the New York Palisades Interstate Park Commission, the State owns 26,000 acres of land which is known as the Palisades Interstate Park. The jurisdiction of the Commission extends northward from the New Jersey state line along the Hudson River to the city of Newburgh and westward to include the entire Ramapo Mountains. South of the New Jersey line 1,000 acres along the Hudson, owned by the State of New Jersey, are under the control of a legally distinct Commission, which, however, acts in close co-operation with the Commissioners of the State of New York.

The important reasons why these great State Parks should be extended by an affirmative vote on Proposition No. 1 on the official ballot are contained in the text and illustrations of this pamphlet.

PROPOSITION NO. 1 IS NON-POLITICAL AND NON-PARTISAN

The proposal now submitted to the people is non-political and non-partisan, and has been endorsed universally by friends of the forests and organizations which have for years been identified with the creation of the great playgrounds which are so important for the entire population of the State. Among these organizations



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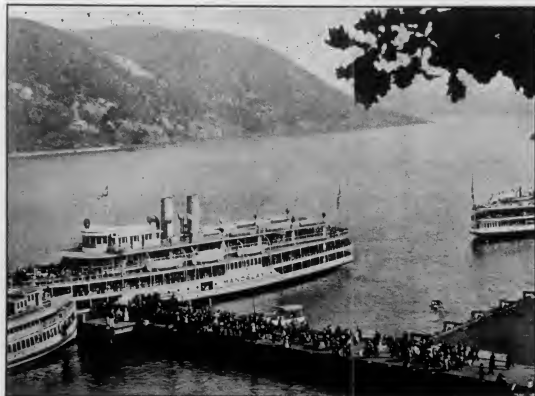
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are the Conservation Commission, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, the Camp Fire Club of America, the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, the New York State Fish, Game and Forest League, the New York State Forestry Association, The Adirondack League Club, the National Association of Audubon Societies, and the Long Island Game Protective Association.

The wisdom of submitting to the voters matters affecting the people's great parks has been justified repeatedly since the establishment of the Forest Preserve, and particularly since the adoption of the Constitution of 1894, which has protected the Forest Preserve against despoliation. The votes that have been recorded on all questions concerning them have shown that the people of the State have the welfare of the forests at heart and that they may be depended upon at all times to vote in accordance with the best interests of the forests whenever the true facts concerning the forests are understood by them.



650,000 people came to Bear Mountain in the Palisades Interstate Park in 1916

For Health and Recreation



The Roads of the Palisades Interstate Park are marvels of engineering and scenic beauty

THE PALISADES INTERSTATE PARK IS THE GREATEST PLAYGROUND IN THE WORLD

Proposition No. 1 Insures Its Complete Development

The Palisades Interstate Park lies at the very door of the greatest city on earth and is immediately accessible to a population of nearly 10,000,000 people. It consists of wild forest and mountain land, laid out with trails and drives and studded with natural and artificial lakes of wonderful scenic beauty. The camp sites that it offers are practically unlimited, and the opportunities that it presents to millions of city-penned people for healthful out-of-door recreation are unequalled in attractiveness and accessibility anywhere else in the world. In the single season of 1916 it was visited by 1,500,000 persons. 5,000 boy scouts camped on the shores of one pond alone. At another camp site 3,000 working girls were accommodated during the same season. In a third camp 428 under-

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3,000 working girls camped on one site in the Palisades Interstate Park in 1916

nourished and anaemic boys from New York City were encamped for from two to eight weeks each, in an attempt to bring them back to health and strength. Their red blood cells increased nine per cent, and they gained a total weight of 1,712 pounds, proving the experiment so thoroughly successful that this work will hereafter become a permanent feature upon a far larger scale. Other camps were scattered everywhere throughout the Park, and particularly along the watersides.

The first great problem in the development of the Palisades Interstate Park, a problem already largely solved, was that of making the property quickly and easily accessible. For this purpose twenty large piers have been built along the Hudson River waterfront, besides numerous small landing stages for motorboats and canoes. Three lines of ferries from New York City have been established through the efforts of the Commission. In addition, two large boats have been provided to make daily round trips over the forty-five miles of river to Bear Mountain. By special arrangement of the Commission the fare for the round trip of ninety miles was fixed at fifty cents.

For Water Supply for Canals

From the docks and landing stages along the river, paths have been constructed, following the shore line through groves and picnic grounds and through the upland, many of these paths connecting with the trails and roads which reach out to all sections of the Park. Under-water lands have been filled in for playgrounds and motorboat basins, bathing beaches have been constructed, and bathing floats have been provided. Up the cliffs at Englewood the Commission has constructed one of the most wonderful roads in the country, which it is now extending as a driveway northward through the Park to Alpine.

At Bear Mountain, in the Highlands of the Hudson, ramps and paths have been built from the dock landings to Highland Lake. A large playground and athletic fields, including ball diamonds and tennis courts, have been constructed. At Highland Lake, which has been cleaned and raised, a boathouse has been built and free rowboats are provided. Bear Mountain Inn has been erected to provide refreshments at a cost to meet all pocketbooks. Throughout other sections of the Highlands roads have been made,



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One hundred miles of fire trails have been cleared, and five fire patrol towers, connected by a telephone line of nineteen miles, have been erected. Two thousand acres of denuded land have been reforested with two million trees supplied without cost from the state nurseries of the Conservation Commission.

In the creation of this wonderful vacation ground the State of New York has appropriated, in money and lands, \$3,150,000. The State of New Jersey has appropriated \$400,000 for expenditure within the State of New Jersey. In addition the Commission has



Everywhere on State land in the Forest Preserve are the camps of the summer fraternity

For Preservation of the Forests



The high mountain tops of the Adirondacks were climbed this year by 50,000 vacationists

received private contributions in money and lands amounting to the grand total of \$4,480,000, or more than the total investment of both the States of New York and New Jersey. No other park in the world has received similar support from private sources. No other park in the world fills a similar social need for so many people. And no other park in the world can be assured of such further private support as this great recreation ground of the American metropolis.

A \$2,500,000 GIFT IS PROMISED TO THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Proposition No. 1 Will Secure It

Proposition No. 1 provides that \$2,500,000 shall be expended for the purchase of additional land for the Palisades Interstate

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With a portion of the State money, and with money privately subscribed, the work of preserving the scenic beauty of the Hudson River Highlands against despoliation by private quarries will be forever completed. Other lands reaching back into the Ramapo Mountains, and forming a logical unit in the great park system stretching between New York City and the State Park in the Catskill Mountains, will be purchased. Funds privately subscribed, contingent upon the passage of Proposition No. 1, will then be used for the development of this vast property by a comprehensive system of roads, trails, camp sites, playgrounds and other improvements.



Frail boys of the city are transformed into vigorous citizens in the Palisades Interstate Park

For Control of Stream Flow



In the Adirondack and Catskill Parks are boys' camps by the score

THE GREAT OBJECTS OF THE FOREST PRESERVE

Proposition No. 1 Will Insure Their Accomplishment

The great objects for which New York State should maintain a large Forest Preserve over its mountain and lake regions have increased in importance with every decade. They may be briefly stated as follows:

First: Forests are the great conservers of water supply. The leaves of the forest trees prevent rapid evaporation of moisture from the ground and the soft sponge-like duff of the forest floor hoards the water from melting snow and from rain, allowing it to run gradually into the brooks and rivers. The streams of Europe and Asia have shrunk as the forests have been cut away, and in many parts of our own country the water courses have diminished from the same cause.

Second: Forests increase the fall of rain. As the moisture laden winds from the lakes and ocean sweep over them, their lower temperature precipitates the vapor as rain or snow. Thus the forests are not only conservers of water supply, but are also, for all prac-

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tical purposes, actual producers of water supply.

Third: Forests are great equalizers of climate and temperature. It is a fact of common knowledge that the localities which have the most equable climates, which are most free from violent winds, from periods of drought, and from excessive heat and cold, are the sections which have a considerable forest cover over them or in their immediate vicinity.

Fourth: Because of the pace of our modern civilization, forests have become invaluable as recreation grounds for all the people. In fact, their use for this purpose has increased so tremendously within the last twenty years that it is now one of the chief purposes for which a forest preserve should be maintained. Forested regions are also important as sanitary and health resorts, and are absolutely essential for the preservation of fish and game.

Fifth: Without preservation of the forest under State ownership, the supply of timber for the future will be seriously endangered. Private ownership of forested land has proved almost univer-

For the State's Great Playgrounds

sally to be wasteful and to lead ultimately to complete denudation.

PUBLIC USE OF THE FOREST PRESERVE

Proposition No. 1 Will Extend Its Privileges

Underlying the entire administration of the Forest Preserve is the idea of public use. For fishing and hunting, for camping, tramping and canoeing, they are open to all alike upon equal terms. Within the last twelve months illegal occupancies, by which many have for years usurped special privileges, have been terminated by the Conservation Commission. Accordingly it may now be truly said, for the first time since the creation of the Forest Preserve, that this great public recreation ground is free from favoritism. Everywhere are found the transient tents of the summer fraternity. Under permit from the Conservation Commission, they may be more substantially erected with board floors, sides and framework. Open camps, the Adirondack log lean-tos, have been built on many of the main trails, and offer welcome shelter to



The effect of quarry operations upon the scenery of the Hudson



The Palisades Interstate Park is one vast playground for the people

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The Forest Preserve is the Sportsman's Happy Fishing Ground

trampers and mountain climbers. Off the main trails, on lakes and streams, they may be erected under permit, for hunting, fishing and camping purposes. Within the limits of the State Constitution, and with an equal regard for all alike, the free use of the Forest Preserve is aided and encouraged as never before.

Records of visitors to the high mountain tops, where the Conservation Commission maintains fire observers, show that fully 50,000 persons climbed to the summits of the Adirondacks and Catskills in a single season for the magnificent panoramas there outspread. To them must be added hundreds of thousands of others less strenuous. State roads have made the Forest Preserve accessible from all quarters, until it has become one of the most beautiful motor touring centers of the continent. The vistas from the cars include large areas of private forest, much of which is already marked for destruction.

The national government has long recognized the preservation of scenic beauty and the protection of recreation grounds as of

For Protection of Water Supply

vital importance for the welfare of all the people. New York State recognized it in the constitution of 1894. Proposition No. 1 will bring this ideal to realization.

LESS THAN ONE-HALF OF THE LAND WITHIN THE PARK LINES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE IS NOW STATE OWNED

Proposition No. 1 Will Correct This

The Legislature has by law defined the central portions of the Adirondack and Catskill mountain and lake regions as the vital areas over which the people of the State of New York should maintain a continuous forest cover. These vital central areas are known as the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. Nevertheless the State of New York now owns only forty-eight per cent of the land within these Park lines. The State holdings occur in parcels of larger or smaller area, intermixed everywhere with tracts of privately owned forest which is fully subject to uncontrolled exploitation. For the purpose of conservation of water supply, for the increase of rain fall, for climatic equalization, and for purposes of recreation,



Lean-tos are popular shelters in the Forest Preserve

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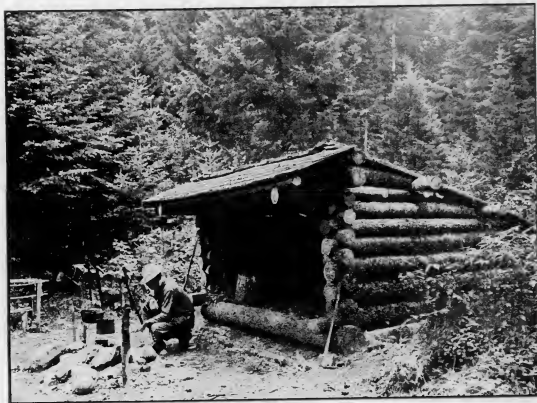
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this fifty-two per cent of privately owned land is in every respect as important as the forty-eight per cent now held by the State, and where forest cover is to be removed, it should be acquired without delay to round out the State's holdings.

RAPID AND COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF PRIVATELY OWNED FORESTS IS IN PROGRESS

Proposition No. 1 Will Save Them

Much of the privately owned land in the Adirondacks and Catskills must be purchased at once if it is to be acquired by the State before complete denudation has arrived. The first lumbering operations were for soft wood only, which was taken out by driving on the rivers. The hardwood was left largely untouched, and thus, where fire has not swept through, a forest cover has been left on the land. In the last few years the privately owned land within the lines of the State Parks in the Adirondacks and Catskills has entered upon the last stage of destruction. This is the cleaning out of the hardwood by large lumber corporations, who are operating logging railroads through their tracts and are making a clean cut of every forest tree which can in any way be utilized. These operations are measured not in acres, but in entire townships.

SPRUCE CLAD MOUNTAIN TOPS ARE BEING DENUDED

Proposition No. 1 Will Stop It

Throughout all of the earlier lumbering operations the spruce forest on the high mountain tops, which occurs in those localities in practically unmixed stands without hardwoods, was neglected. Over large areas it is now falling before the ax. In its place there are left piles of dry slash, veritable tinder for forest fires which threaten to consume not only the few remaining trees upon the mountain tops, but the thin soil of the mountain sides as well. Wherever the soil is destroyed on such mountain tops, the return of a forest cover is forever impossible. So serious are these conditions becoming in many localities that a forest fire once started in them during dry weather would be absolutely uncontrollable until it reached green timber. The damage that it would then cause in the green timber in a season of drought would be tremendous.

To Stop Denudation of Mountain Tops

THE STATE'S PROPERTY IS MENACED BY SURROUNDING SLASH

Proposition No. 1 Will Protect It

The State's own holdings, totalling in value fully \$40,000,000, are menaced at innumerable points by the fire traps created upon the privately owned land that is interspersed with the State property. Some idea of the extent to which State and privately owned land is intermixed, and of the danger from fire which this entails upon the State land, may be gathered from the fact that the State's property lines, because of the many small parcels, aggregate more than 9,000 miles. In the language of the trenches, these salients of privately owned land must be eliminated and the State lines must be consolidated as a measure of protection for the property that the State now owns.



New York City's future water supply must come from the lakes of the Forest Preserve

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Much of the privately owned land in the Adirondacks and Catskills must be purchased at once if it is to be acquired by the State before complete denudation has arrived. The first lumbering operations were for soft wood only, which was taken out by driving on the rivers. The hardwood was left largely untouched, and thus, where fire has not swept through, a forest cover has been left on the land. In the last few years the privately owned land within the lines of the State Parks in the Adirondacks and Catskills has entered upon the last stage of destruction. This is the cleaning out of the hardwood by large lumber corporations, who are operating logging railroads through their tracts and are making a clean cut of every forest tree which can in any way be utilized. These operations are measured not in acres, but in entire townships.

SPRUCE CLAD MOUNTAIN TOPS ARE BEING DENUDED

Proposition No. 1 Will Stop It

Throughout all of the earlier lumbering operations the spruce forest on the high mountain tops, which occurs in those localities in practically unmixed stands without hardwoods, was neglected. Over large areas it is now falling before the ax. In its place there are left piles of dry slash, veritable tinder for forest fires which threaten to consume not only the few remaining trees upon the mountain tops, but the thin soil of the mountain sides as well. Wherever the soil is destroyed on such mountain tops, the return of a forest cover is forever impossible. So serious are these conditions becoming in many localities that a forest fire once started in them during dry weather would be absolutely uncontrollable until it reached green timber. The damage that it would then cause in the green timber in a season of drought would be tremendous.

To Stop Denudation of Mountain Tops

THE STATE'S PROPERTY IS MENACED BY SURROUNDING SLASH

Proposition No. 1 Will Protect It

The State's own holdings, totalling in value fully \$40,000,000, are menaced at innumerable points by the fire traps created upon the privately owned land that is interspersed with the State property. Some idea of the extent to which State and privately owned land is intermixed, and of the danger from fire which this entails upon the State land, may be gathered from the fact that the State's property lines, because of the many small parcels, aggregate more than 9,000 miles. In the language of the trenches, these salients of privately owned land must be eliminated and the State lines must be consolidated as a measure of protection for the property that the State now owns.



New York City's future water supply must come from the lakes of the Forest Preserve

Proposition No. 1



"This is the Forest Primeval"

For Extension of the Forest Preserve



Turned by the ax into tinder for forest fires



Fire follows the ax

Proposition No. 1



"This is the Forest Primeval"

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Fire follows the ax

Proposition No. 1



The nurseries of the Conservation Commission produce 10,000,000 trees annually for reforestation

NEW YORK CITY'S FUTURE WATER SUPPLY MUST BE ASSURED

Proposition No. 1 Will Save It

Consolidation of larger areas under State ownership and control is assuming rapidly increasing importance in the minds of water supply and sanitary engineers because of the fact that New York City must shortly look to the Adirondacks for a pure and adequate water supply. The probability of utilizing this source was clearly foreseen as long ago as 1900, when an exhaustive report upon New York's future water supply was prepared by John R. Freeman, Civil Engineer, under the direction of City Comptroller Bird S. Coler. 2,650 square miles of available water shed in the Adirondacks were then studied and mapped and estimates of cost and plans were prepared which show that one billion gallons per day may be delivered to the city by gravity. The limit of the supply

For the Preservation of Timber Supply

in the Catskills will be reached in from twenty to thirty years. Safeguarding the Adirondack sources is accordingly of immediate importance.

STATE OWNERSHIP MEANS PROTECTION AND REFORESTATION

Proposition No. 1 Provides True Conservation

State ownership and control of land now privately owned in the Adirondacks and Catskills will be directly effective in increasing



State ownership means reforestation and wise administration

the value of the property. Fire danger will be reduced to a minimum, because of the prevention of lumbering, while reforestation of lands already cleared of tree growth will be conducted. In

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Proposition No. 1



Forests are indispensable as conservers of water power

1915 three thousand acres of State owned land were reforested from trees grown in the five State nurseries. In 1916 the reforested area totalled four thousand acres. This is in addition to the reforestation of land in the Palisades Interstate Park. The Conservation Commission has entered upon a policy of complete reforestation of all denuded State land. The lumber corporations of the Adirondacks and Catskills are making practically no attempts to bring back a forest cover upon their denuded land, and accordingly the only hope of growing a suitable forest upon these areas is that of bringing them under State ownership.

FOREST LAND WILL INCREASE IN VALUE

Proposition No. 1 Provides for Investment

Bond issues for practically all other State purposes provide money which is to be used for outright expenditure. Money spent for purchase of additional lands in the Adirondacks and Catskills, however, is money invested. For this purpose the State has already spent \$4,075,000. The title to the land which was purchased remains in the State, with all that this means to the people in the increasing value of the property. It is conservatively estimated that the Forest Preserve is now worth, if it should be placed on the

To Safeguard the Sources of Water Power

market, at least \$40,000,000. It is thus true in every sense that the proposed bond issue of \$10,000,000 for additions to the Forest Preserve and to the Palisades Interstate Park is an investment in the broadest sense, upon which the State can never lose, and which will have a constantly increasing monetary value as time goes on, aside from the resulting benefits to the people in many other ways.

THE BOND ISSUE WILL BE WISELY USED

Proposition No. 1 Guarantees This

That the funds arising from the passage of Proposition No. 1 will be wisely expended is guaranteed by Chapter 569 of the Laws of 1916, under which this proposal is now submitted to the people. The acquisition of lands under the act will extend over a number of years and it is provided that no proceeds of the bond issue may be used for this purpose until they are first appropriated thereto by the Legislature. For the extension of the Forest Preserve \$7,500,000 can be used, but only "under the direction of the Conservation Commission, by and with the advice and consent of the Commissioners of the Land Office." The Commissioners of the Land



Without water power the wheels of industry are stopped

Proposition No. 1



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Office are the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Secretary of State, the Comptroller, the Treasurer, the Attorney General, and the State Engineer and Surveyor.

The remaining \$2,500,000 "shall be expended and lands acquired by the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park, under the provisions of Chapter 170 of the Laws of 1900, as amended," which is the law under which this great Park has been created and devoted to the public.

PROPOSITION NO. 1 SHOULD BE APPROVED

The proposed bond issue for the purchase of additional State lands in the Forest Preserve and the Palisades Interstate Park, purchases identical in purpose, will be Proposition No. 1 on the ballots handed to the voters on November 7. An affirmative vote should be recorded upon it, that the people's fundamental forest and park policy, formulated in 1885, affirmed in 1894, and repeatedly reaffirmed since, may be brought to fulfillment.

NEW YORK BOARD OF TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION.
CAMP FIRE CLUB OF AMERICA.
ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ADIRONDACKS.
AMERICAN SCENIC AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY.
NEW YORK STATE FISH, GAME AND FOREST LEAGUE.
NEW YORK STATE FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.
ADIRONDACK LEAGUE CLUB.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUDUBON SOCIETIES.
LONG ISLAND GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

"All lands acquired under this act shall be for the use of all the People." (Section 5 of Chapter 569 of the Laws of 1916.)

PROPOSITION NO. 1.

YES



NO



PROPOSITION No. 1

Shall chapter five hundred and sixty-nine of the laws of nineteen hundred and sixteen, entitled "An act making provision for issuing bonds to the amount of not to exceed ten million dollars for the acquisition of lands for state park purposes, and providing for a submission of the same to the people to be voted upon at the general election to be held in the year nineteen hundred and sixteen," be approved?

Vote "YES" on Proposition No. 1

(Please pass this booklet on to another voter).

MSH 21605



**END OF
TITLE**